Patent claims

1. A loop means for pointing devices for guiding a cursor on a computer screen or the like in the form of a cylinder that can be moved in its axial direction and rotate around two supports that stretch out the cross-section of the loop to make an oval shape, including a flexible support material having a number of mutually spaced strips or equivalent means essentially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the loop means for stiffening the loop means in its axial direction, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y friction material with significantly varying thickness at different places measured from the external surface of the support material and outwards.

2. The loop means according to claim 1 , c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y longitudinal zones between the strips with less than average concentration of friction material.

3. The loop means according to claim 2, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the friction material being arranged essentially in the form of friction strips above the strips.

4. The loop means according to claim 2, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the friction material being arranged essentially in the form of friction islands above the strips.

5. The loop means according to any of the previous claims, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y comprising a substantially rectangular support material, joined together to form a cylinder, whereby at least a portion of the joint is situated over one of the strips.

6. The loop means according to any of the previous claims, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the support material consisting of fabric.

7. The loop means according to claim 6, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the support material's individual threads being arranged at an angle of at least 20 and at most 70 degrees to the strips.

8. The loop means according to claims 6 or 7, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the cloth having a distance D between the individual threads, where D is larger than 0.05 millimetre on the average.

9. The loop means according to claim 8, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the cloth being of the Georgette type of fabric.

10. The loop means according to any of the previous claims, c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y the friction material containing small reflecting particles that are separated sufficiently to give rise to individual light points on the detector chip of an optical detector such as a HDNS 2000 or the like.
